161 population is only 13.2 persons per square kilometer, or 30.7 per square mile. Of all the countries in Europe, only Norway and Iceland are more sparsely populated, and nature, as a whole, in Finland still dominates the achievements of man. The population, of course, is not distributed evenly over the country. It has its greatest density in the southern and southwestern coastal areas, while the northern and eastern parts still present an unbroken chain of primeval forests.

166 The earliest settlements were established on
361 the coast and at the mouths of rivers, along which the population advanced to the center of the country. There the great inland waterways provided a helpful means of communication, and beginning from the early Middle Ages a slow

166 migration towards the north and the northeast
●361 has continued, with major settlements arising on the lake shores and river banks.

The chief administrative districts of Finland are:

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	Density of population per. sq. km. (31 December 1950)	Area (sq. km.)
Uusimaa	67.3	12,232
Häme	30.2	21,645
Kymi	29.0	10,756
Turku and Pori	28.7	23,014
Vaasa	15.6	41,468
Mikkeli	13.8	23,012
Kuopio	13.1	42,984
Oulu	6.4	61,192
Lappland	1.8	99,305

ooo During the last few decades Finland has been

369 During the last few decades Finland has been
162 changing from a predominantly agricultural to an industrial country. In 1950 42 per cent of its population received their livelihood from agriculture and 42 per cent from industry, while the share of other occupations is 16 per cent. As a considerable part of Finnish industry is carried on in large self-contained units situated in the country, 69 per cent of the population can still be classed as rural, and only 31 per cent as urban. On the other hand, it has to be remembered that many communities in Finland are classified as rural although they show concentrations of population much larger than many of the cities and market towns.

361 The populations of the major Finnish cities
161 on 1 January 1955 were as follows:

● 361 161	Helsinki (Swed. Helsingfors)	422,632
	Turku (Swed. Åbo)	119,455
	Tampere	111,985
	Lahti	50,546
	Oulu	47,961
	Pori	43,605
	Vaasa (Swed. Vasa)	39,592
	Kuopio	38,500
	Kotka	36,310
	Jyväskylä	35,281
	Kemi	25,174
	Hämeenlinna	23,564
	Lappeenranta	19,121
	Mikkeli	18,500
	Rauma	18,203
	Kokkola (Swed. Gamla Karleby)	15,456
	Pietarsaari (Swed. Jakobstad)	14,998

361 Joensuu	14, 271
161 Savonlinna	12, 099
Porvoo (Swed. Borgå)	9, 190
Hamina	8, 934
Heinola	8, 723
Kajaani	7, 863
Hanko (Swed. Hangö)	7, 311
Raahe	5, 179
Iisalmi	5, 173
Tammisaari (Swed. Ekenäs)	4, 839
Maarianhamina (Swed. Mariehamn)	4, 601
Loviisa (Swed. Lovisa)	4, 579
Uusidaupunki	4, 575
Tornio (Swed. Torneå)	4, 079
Kristiina (Swed. Kristinestad)	2, 964
Naantali	2, 029
Kaskinen (Swed. Kaskö)	1, 895

361
161 Uusikaarlepyy (Swed. Nykarleby) 1, 225

The population in the market towns (urban communities which do not have the rights of self-government equal to those of the cities) on 1 January 1950 was distributed thus:

Imatra	28, 100
Karhula	19, 172
Varkaus	17, 656
Riihimäki	16, 177
Nokia	15, 503
Rovanieme	13, 335
Hyvinkää	13, 130
Valkeakoski	11, 649
Kuovola	10, 552
Lauritsala	10, 539
Salo	9, 241
Forssa	8, 881

361 Kerava	8,205
161 Pieksämäki	7,886
Järvenpää	7,835
Seinäjoki	7,509
Lohja	7,152
Äänekoski	6,043
Parainen (Swed. Pargas)	6,007
Mänttä	5,864
Toijala	5,807
Suolahti	5,219
Karkkila	4,531
Karjaa (Swed. Karis)	4,048
Lieksa	3,438
Loimaa	3,374
Kauniainen (Swed. Grankulla)	2,514
Nurmes	1,471
Vammala	1,124
Ikaalinen	531

157 whoever he may be, with the utmost courtesy and hospitality, and, however busy one may be, it is always best to accept this hospitality gratefully and patiently. The Finns never seem to be in a hurry, and it is said--although this is an over-statement--that trains are the only thing on time in Finland.

The individualism of the Finn is partly due to the isolation in which he has lived for centuries.

361 The settlements have been sparse; even today many faraway houses are cut off from all connections with neighbors for some time every year. Nowhere in the rural areas in Finland can one meet crowded villages with streets and squares as in Central Europe. The farmhouses stand wide apart each on its own hill, surrounded by fields and pastures. Only around

●361 the churches and railroad stations do the habitations appear denser, not to mention the housing projects which have risen around big industrial concerns. The farmhouses are situated near lake shores, wherever possible, and are invariably surrounded by trees. According to ancient tradition, each house should be built under a large spruce tree, and birch trees should stand in the vicinity for the cuckoos to come and sing in the spring. Many of the farmhouses are beautifully proportioned, painted red with white corners and window frames and surrounded by gardens with flowers and blossoming bushes. The forest usually begins directly behind the back yard and may extend over hundreds of acres.

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As for Finnish rural culture, there are no

349 style as homes for the nobility, whose influence
• 361 at that time was at its height. The cities re-
341 mained modest until the beginning of the last century, when city planning and street construction actually started. The center of Helsinki, built in neoclassic style, dates from this period. Later certain nationalistic trends became evident even in the architecture. This nationalistic school was represented by the most famous of all Finnish architects, Eliel Saarinen, during his earlier work, and it had as a result such creations as the railroad station and the
341 National Museum in Helsinki. At present, Finnish architecture is distinctly modern, as represented by such achievements as the Olympic Stadium and the Children's Hospital in Helsinki and the Burial Chapel in Turku, a deserving modern counterpart for the Cathedral.

511 Much public and voluntary work is being done to improve the conditions in those areas. Even in the south, in the outer islands of the archipelago, the fishermen often have to get along without the necessities of life, as the soil is too rocky to feed a cow or to grow potatoes, and communication with the mainland is often hampered by storms and ice.

•361 There are no slum areas in the cities; the daily sweeping of streets and cleaning of the market places keep the cities very clean. Since industry uses water power instead of coal, even cities like Tampere, an industrial center crowded with large factories, can offer a spectacle of white buildings and verdant parks.

735 Beggary is non-existent, and the class of vagabonds is mainly represented by gypsies, who are more numerous in Finland than in any other Northern country. -309-